

The Civic



Birthdays

William Snyder—July 6

Randy King—July 6

Al Mack—July 9

Clark Saylor—July 10

Maureen Comer—July 20

Cyndi Papia—July 29

Civitan Anniversaries

None



2025 SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

In late May, the New Bern High School Scholarship winners and their families attended our meeting and thanked the Club for their scholarships.

These students from New Bern High School each received \$1,000 from our Club through our funds in the North Carolina Foundation. But did you know there was more?

This year, the Club budget contains scholarship funding for:

- ♦ Three at \$1,000 from NC Foundation for four-year schools
- ♦ Four at \$1,000 from NBCC for four-year schools
- ♦ Two at \$1,000 for nursing program at Craven Community College
- ♦ Three at \$1,000 for “trades” at Craven Community College

For a grand total of \$12,000

This should make all Civitan members enormously proud. Think of this when our fundraising efforts come around throughout the year. We support many charities and causes. YOUR hard work and volunteer time make this all possible.

Is it worth it? You bet it is!

NEW BERN CIVITAN CLUB LOVES JOE – 55 YEARS



The Club was honored to recognize Joe Alcock at its June 13 meeting for an incredible fifty-five years of service to Civitan. Although Joe couldn't attend in person, the heartfelt tribute was captured on video by Amy Willis, who will share it with Joe's daughters so they can present it to him on Father's Day.

Joe Alcock is a well-known and highly respected figure in New Bern. He began his career in the automotive industry in 1948 and went on to purchase his first dealership in the late 1960s. Over the decades, his businesses and real estate ventures flourished. Joe became a member of the New Bern Civitan Club in 1970 and has been a strong supporter and active participant in numerous Club initiatives ever since.

During the tribute, several Civitans shared fond memories, speaking warmly of Joe's kindness, generous spirit, deep sense of community — and his famous, friendly hugs. Club President Roy Leonard has a 55-year pin and a framed letter from Civitan International ready to present to Joe. He and a small group of members plan to visit Joe soon to deliver these tokens of appreciation in person, honoring a legacy of service and friendship.

All of us wish Joe good health and happiness. We thank him for his dedication to the Club and honor him as the longest member.

55 YEARS – WOW!



PRE-SCHOOL SUPPLIES STILL NEEDED IN 2025



We were happy to learn the Craven County Pre-K and Family Literacy Program will continue for the 2025-2026 school year. As we have done for many years in the past, we will be collecting items at our meetings on June 26, July 11 and 24. The program remains available for about 400 children, aged four, in Craven County, 300 of which are in the New Bern area. Children must still qualify to be eligible by being developmentally disabled, physically handicapped, below the poverty level or have limited language proficiency.

In the Club's budget this year, we have been able to order 72 backpacks online at a lower cost than in the stores. We also have an anonymous donation of 84 lap blankets thus far this year – but we still need more. Here is what is needed:

Backpacks for Pre-Schoolers – size 14 or 15 inches. Plain & store brands are fine and less expensive.

Lap blankets and beach towels – used by the children as covers for nap time.

Spiral notebooks – one subject - used by the adults in the Family Literacy Program.

Pocketed folders – used to send notices from the school to the home.

If you prefer not to shop, Judy Lopez or Maureen Come will shop for you. Monetary donations can help buy a case (24) of backpacks online for \$72. These children and their families, like others in our society, are in financial difficulties and for the most part, fall below the poverty level. Our help is greatly needed and APPRECIATED.

As an aside, some of the backpacks and lap blankets are used for multiple years by other children in the family. If the backpacks are in good condition at the end of the school year, they are returned to the program to be used the following year. Their “shelf life” after being used by four-year-olds is only about two years – at best!

So, thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and generosity.

UPDATED & REVISED RCS DINNER INSTRUCTIONS



The Club has donated dinner once a month to the RCS Shelter since 2010 on the second Monday evening each month. Since its inception, new members have joined the Club, and it seems like a suitable time to review what the expectations are for members signing up to donate to this very worthy cause. **Please take the time to read this summary so you might better understand the program.**

At a meeting in July, the Comers will be speaking about this project and will answer any questions you might have. Until then, **we need volunteers to sign up to DONATE.** The delivery in July is on Monday, the 14th at 5:45 pm. Lately, and sadly, it has been difficult to get members to volunteer to donate in all categories – ESPECIALLY PASTA. Perhaps this article will take away the mystery about what is needed.

Sign up at <https://signup.com/go/dUenBpr>.

Please make enough food for about **20 people** and deliver it in a disposable container.

MEATBALLS: 2-3 per person. It is fine to buy ready-made meatballs (about two packages of frozen meatballs should suffice). *You will have to cook the meatballs, pasta, and sauce & be able to deliver them **HOT** to the Shelter.*

PASTA: About 3-4 lbs. and 1 to 2 quarts of sauce. You have enough when the pasta fills a lasagna tray.

SALAD: A lasagna-tray-sized salad plus two bottled dressings (Italian and Ranch). You can buy **ready-made** salads in a bag & put in the pan. You may add cucumbers, carrots, cheese, croutons, etc., if you wish.

BREAD, BUTTER & SOFT DRINKS: The person providing bread (2-3 loaves of Italian bread is good) should also get 1 lb. of butter or margarine AND the drinks (i.e., iced tea, lemonade, soda, etc. – NO alcoholic beverages). Walmart carries loaves of French bread for about \$1 each.

DESSERT: Cookies, cake – **no ice cream.**

Please bring the food on the designated night, **the second Monday of the month** to the old Harris Teeter Plaza (now where Ashley's Furniture & Kohl's are) if you want the Comers to deliver it for you to RCS downtown. We meet behind the ABC store in the parking lot in that plaza at 5:30 p.m.

You may choose to deliver the food **DIRECTLY** to the RCS Shelter on George Street. If you cannot take the food to the designated area or to the Shelter, please contact the Comers (252-619-0274) and we'll plan to pick up the food from you.

If you save your bills for the cost of buying the food, **the Club will reimburse you.**

GAME DAY AND PICNIC AT CREEKSIDE PARK



After a week's postponement due to harsh weather, the Game Day and Picnic at Creekside Park took place on June 2, 2025. Several separate groups of developmentally disabled adults from various agencies across the county, along with their caregivers, assembled for a fun day. The Craven County Recreation Department assisted "Game" Chairperson, Dennis Pymm, with setting up appropriate games for the participants. Many enjoyed the park equipment – swings, slides, etc. – at this beautiful New Bern Park.

A picnic lunch was provided by the Club, orchestrated by Betty and Gary Todd. Gary was the "grill master," cooking hot dogs, and Betty coordinated donations from members of the Club of mild chili and mashed potatoes – a gourmet treat for many of our guests. Since the event was moved one week later, the planned assistance by students from Epiphany School did not happen as school was already out of session. But our membership mobilized for the call for assistance and many volunteers showed up. Thanks to all who helped. It was very much needed and appreciated.

When the event was over, the participants went home full and happy. The volunteers felt tired but content knowing they helped to make the day a bit brighter for the many partakers. Kudos to the organizers of this event and to all the wonderful members of Civitan who volunteered.



C4C AT CUMC



If you're wondering about the "code" in the headline, C4C stands for *Congregation for Children*, an outreach mission of Centenary United Methodist Church.

New Bern native Gayle Midyette is the volunteer coordinator for C4C at Oaks Road Academy, a Craven County elementary school where many students face economic hardship and there's no Parent-Teacher Association.

A retired educator, Gayle earned her degrees in History, Political Science, and School Counseling from ECU and spent 35 years at H.J. MacDonald Middle School. Since retiring, she's poured her energy into supporting students at Oaks Road Academy and was honored as Craven City Schools' first Volunteer of the Year in 2015.

As coordinator, Gayle recruits volunteers for everything from lunchroom supervision and classroom help to field trips and night programs. Volunteers assist with projects, remedial work, organizing materials, clerical tasks, and even coloring and stamping books. Around the holidays, she also collects donations to ensure every student receives a new book — and helps replenish classroom libraries, too.

One of our own, Dennis Pymm, volunteers with this program — but of course, that's no surprise!

Want to get involved?

Reach out to Gayle at gmidyette@suddenlink.net or call **252-637-2415**.

And our next Quarterly Focus (July-September) supports Oaks Road Academy! Donations collected will go toward essential classroom supplies for teachers and students.

HATS FOR VETERANS

Just a reminder Jan Snyder, Chairperson of the Veterans Home in Kinston effort, is still taking donations from members if they want to support this program.

Jan has learned the vets in the Home LOVE baseball-type caps that identify them as veterans and recognize the branch of service in which they served.

We already have donations from within the Club and outside the Club through the Tony's Troops fund.

If you want to be included in this effort, please contact Jan Snyder ASAP at JanSny60@gmail.com.

The Activities Director from the Kinston Veterans Home will be a guest speaker at one of our meetings in the near future.

SOME CHUCKLES FOR JULY



- Anyone who says their wedding was the best day of their life has clearly never had two candy bars fall at once from a vending machine.
- The biggest joke on humankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't robots.
- It's weird being the same age as old people.
- Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say "CLOSE ENOUGH."
- Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.
- We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages...Metamucil and Ensure.
- You know you are getting old when friends with benefits means having someone who can drive at night.
- Weight-loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.
- Some of my friends exercise every day. Meanwhile, I am watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.
- I just got a present labeled from "Mom and Dad," and I know darn well Dad has no idea what's inside it.
- Now that Covid has everyone washing their hands correctly...next week...TURN SIGNALS.
- Someone Said, "Nothing rhymes with orange." I said, "No, it doesn't."
- There's a fine line between a numerator and a denominator. Only a fraction of people will find this funny.
- Reading gives us someplace to go when we must stay where we are.
- I have many hidden talents. I just wish I could remember where I hid them.
- My idea of a Super Bowl is a toilet that cleans itself.
- Apparently exercise helps you with decision-making. It's true. I went for a run this morning and decided I'm never going again.
- When a kid says, "Daddy, I want Mommy," that's the kid version of, "I'd like to speak to your supervisor."
- For those of you that don't want Alexa or Siri listening in on your conversation, they are making a male version...it doesn't listen to anything.

NBCC EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 1: Last day to order BBQ ribs for Club Fundraiser @ 5 pm deadline. Order by email at CivitanRibs@gmail.com or by calling or texting Randy King at 252-670-9912. Full rack \$25 – indicate plain or Sweet Baby Ray sauce.

Remember: Ribs make a great 4th of July picnic entree. They also freeze well for a later celebration. You may also DONATE a rack of ribs to RCS. YOU pay for them...WE deliver them to RCS.

Wednesday, July 2: Rib rub at Piggly Wiggly.

Friday, July 4: Pick up reserved orders via drive-through lane in the parking lot at Piggly Wiggly on Simmons St. no later than 11 a.m.

Friday, July 4: Independence Day

Friday, July 11: NBCC Afternoon Meeting 11:30 am at Paula's Restaurant. Guest Speaker: **Jared Brinkley** (Executive Director, CarolinaEast Foundation).

Monday, July 14: *NO BOARD MEETING*. Next Board Meeting will be Monday, August 11.

Monday, July 14: RCS Shelter Dinner at 5:45 pm. We still *need donations* for this dinner. If you can donate, please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/dUenBpr>.

Thursday, July 24: NBCC Evening Meeting 5:30 pm at Paula's Restaurant. Guest Speaker: **Mary Lou Infinito** (ECU Hospice Facility).



Officers

President: Roy Leonard

President-Elect: Eileen Buscemi

Vice President: Open

Secretary: Maureen Comer

Assistant Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Van Allen Rice

Assistant Treasurer: Amy Willis

Sergeant-at-Arm: Ken McCain & Dev Lippitt

Education Officers: Helen Shine & Maureen Comer

Chaplain: Bill Baldree

Assistant Chaplain: Jim Comer

Current Board

	Term Expires
Alan Craig	2025
Ann Super	2025
Dave Super	2025
Joanne Tello	2025
Marie Leonard	2026
Buck Irvin	2026
Wendy Fleming	2026
Clark Saylor	2026

JULY FACTS



- ♦ On July 4, 1776, the 13 American colonies declared their independence from the British monarchy. The 4th of July, formally known as Independence Day, has been a federal holiday since 1870 in the United States of America.
- ♦ Only two people signed the Declaration on July 4, 1776. Despite popular belief, most delegates didn't sign until August 2, 1776, when the official parchment copy was ready.
- ♦ The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped 13 times every July 4th in honor of the original 13 colonies.
- ♦ The Yankee Doodle song was originally written by British army officers in attempt to make fun of backwoods Americans.
- ♦ Americans consume 150 million hot dogs on July 4th.
- ♦ On July 5, 1946, the world's first bikini was unveiled in the famous Piscine Molitor swimming pool in Paris.
- ♦ The first crewed mission to the Moon, the Apollo 11 Mission, launched on July 16, 1969.
- ♦ The world's first solo transatlantic flight took place in July 1927 by Charles Lindbergh.
- ♦ The first automobile race in the United States was held in July 1895.
- ♦ The Perseid meteor shower begins in late July, peaking in mid-August.

CIVITAN CREED

I AM CIVITAN: as old as life, as young as the rainbow, as endless as time.

MY HANDS do the work of the world and reach out in service to others.

MY EARS hear the cry of children and the call throughout the world for peace, guidance, progress, and unity.

MY EYES search for others to join in the fellowship and service of Civitan.

MY MOUTH utters the call to daily duty and speaks prayers in every tongue.

MY MIND teaches me respect for law and the flag of my country.

MY HEART beats for every friend, bleeds for every injury to humanity, and throbs with joy at every triumph of truth.

MY SOUL knows no fear but its own unworthiness.

MY HOPE is for a better world through Civitan.

MY MOTTO: builders of good citizenship.

MY BELIEF: do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

MY PLEDGE: to practice the Golden Rule and to build upon it a better and nobler citizenship.